

SPAWN

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91

DIGITAL
EDITION

TODD McFARLANE AND IMAGE COMICS PRESENT...

BLACK CAT BONES PART 1

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SPAWN 90 Summary

Spawn finds three nervous young men in an abandoned house with the dead body of an Asian girl. All three tell different stories about her demise and the events leading up to it, but each of their stories point the finger at each other. Justice is served when Spawn gives the knife and the opportunity to carry out the sentence to one of them. He then takes the unlucky knife-wielder away to carry out his own brand of justice.

DEDICATED TO
My boy, Jake



TODD McFARLANE
PRODUCTIONS



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SANTA
MONICA,
CALIFORNIA.

OVER THE
SCREAM OF
SIRENS, I CAN
HEAR WAVES
CRASHING ON
THE BEACH.

THE MURMURING OF
THE CROWD. THE
SCREECH OF TIRES.

JEEZ,
WHAT A
MESS.


KNEW
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS
WOULD HAPPEN.
SHOULDA TORN
THAT PLACE
DOWN YEARS
AGO.

MY FACE BURNS
BUT MY HANDS
ARE FREEZING.
I CAN'T FEEL
ANYTHING AT
ALL BELOW MY
WAIST.

I CAN'T TURN MY
HEAD AND I'M
AFRAID IF I CLOSE
MY EYES, THEY'LL
NEVER OPEN AGAIN.

SO I JUST
STARE UP
AT HIM.

AND HE STARES BACK.



I WONDER IF HE'S *LAUGHING*.

ALL
RIGHT,
EVERYONE,
MOVE BACK.
NOTHING
TO SEE
HERE.

TWO DAYS
EARLIER...

IT'S A
CAT.

I CAN SEE
IT'S A GODDAMN
CAT, OFFICER. THE
QUESTION IS, WHAT
KIND OF SICK
INDIVIDUAL WOULD
LEAVE IT ON THE
CHURCH STEPS?
LOOK AT IT!
IT'S BEEN
MUTILATED.

WHAT ARE
YOU GOING
TO DO ABOUT
IT? I HAVE
MORNING
SERVICES
IN 20
MINUTES.

SOMEONE
GUTTED IT,
FILLED ITS
BELLY WITH ROCKS
OR SOMETHING.
COULD BE A CULT
THING. PROBABLY
JUST KIDS,
THOUGH.

I'LL CALL
ANIMAL
SERVICES.

LOOK AT
'EM, DIZ.
FREAKIN'
SHEEP. DOESN'T
TAKE MUCH TO
SPOOK THEM,
DOES IT?

SHEEP.
YEAH.

THIS WORLD
IS A VALE OF
LIES, A
HAVEN FOR
HYPOCRITES
AND
COWARDS...

ALL CLINGING PATHETICALLY TO
ANTIQUE NOTIONS OF "RIGHT" AND
"WRONG." THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS
SOCIETY. NO SUCH THINGS AS RULES.

CIVILIZATION DIED A LONG TIME
AGO. WE'RE JUST MAGGOTS
CRAWLING OVER THE
FESTERING CORPSE.

SAY WE
GRAB SOME
BREAKFAST,
DIZ?

YEAH.
BREAKFAST.



WITHOUT SOCIETY THERE
IS ONLY THE INDIVIDUAL.
THE INDIVIDUAL AND
THE **TRIBE**.

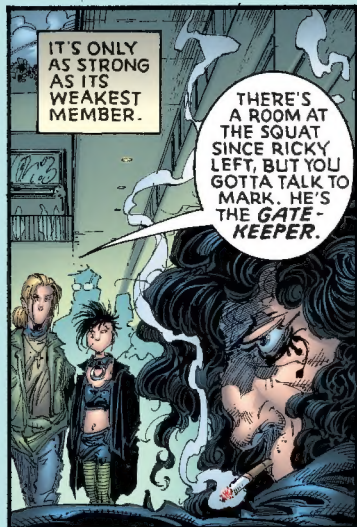
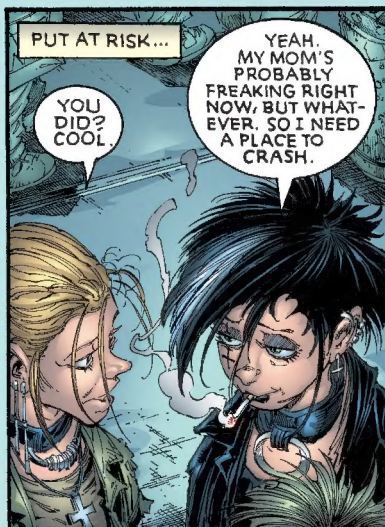
AND THE WHOLE OF
THE LAW SHALL BE
"DO WHAT THOU WILT."



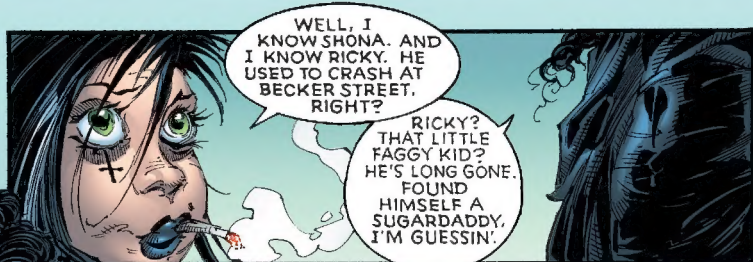
THE SUIT-AND-TIE SLAVES
LOOK AT US WITH AMUSED
PITY. THEY DON'T REALIZE
WE ARE THE **TIGERS** IN A
WORLD OF **LAMBS**.

GUILT.
COMPASSION.
SENTIMENT.
THEY ARE SIGNS
OF SPIRITUAL
DECADENCE.
WEAKNESSES TO
BE EXPLOITED.



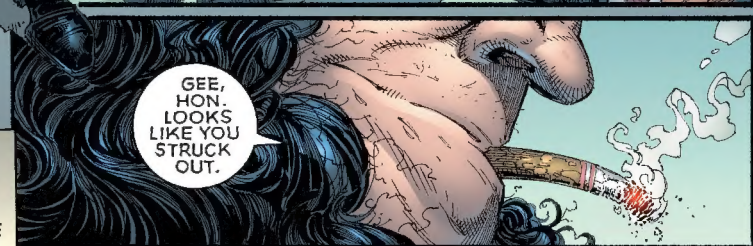
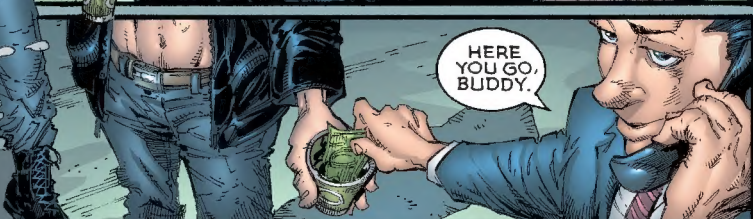
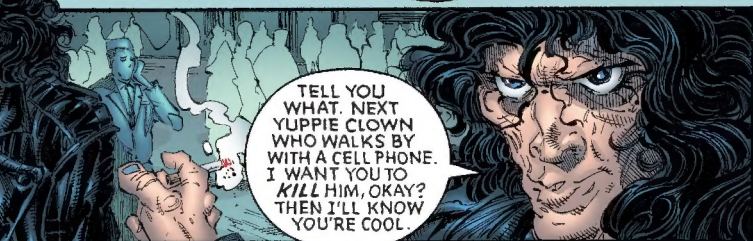


I CLOCKED HER FOR WHAT SHE WAS RIGHT AWAY. ANOTHER DISILLUSIONED LITTLE PRINCESS FROM THE PALISADES.



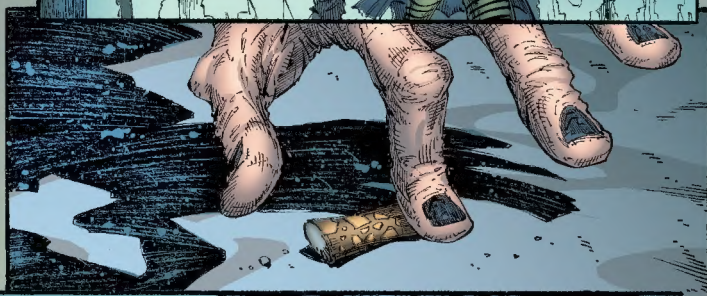
MARK, THIS IS RENEE. SHE NEEDS A PLACE. SHE'S COOL.

I DON'T KNOW HER.



SPOILED WHITE KIDS WHO ARE HANDED EVERYTHING THEIR WHOLE LIVES ARE ALWAYS THE MOST UNHAPPY. THAT SHOULD TELL YOU SOMETHING.

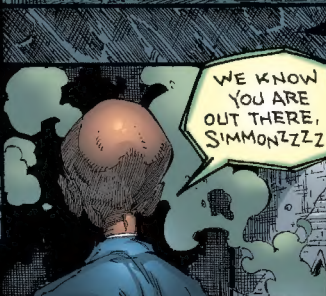
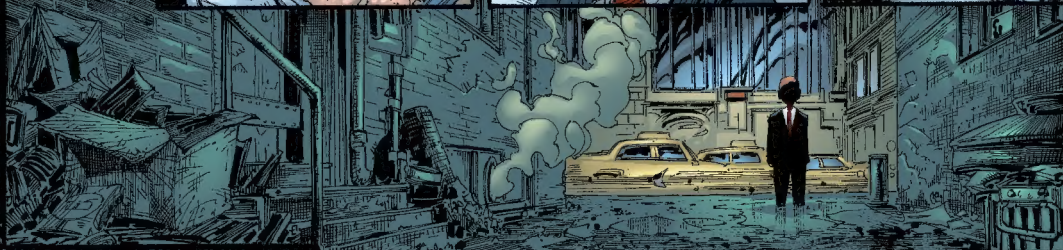
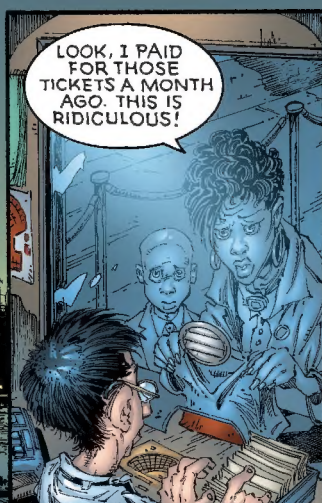




I WANT YOU TO REMEMBER SOMETHING. YOU FAILED BECAUSE YOU ARE **WEAK**. THE STRONG PREY ON THE WEAK. IT IS THE OLDEST LAW IN CREATION. IT IS THE ONLY SACRED TRUTH LEFT IN THIS WORLD.

THIS WORLD IS A WILL TO **POWER**, AND **NOTHING ELSE!**

MANHATTAN.





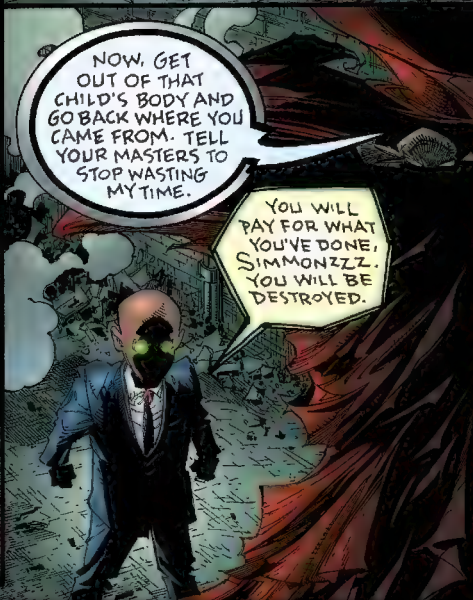
BUT
EVEN THE
SHADOWS
HAVE EYES.
THE DARKNESS
EARS TO HEAR
AND VOICE
TO WHISPER.

YOU
HAVE BEEN
VERY BUSY,
SIMMMONZZ.
DON'T THINK
WE HAVEN'T
NOTICED.

NOR HAVE
WE FORGOTTEN
THE INJURIES YOU HAVE
DONE US, SIMMMONZZZ.
THERE WILL BE A
RECKONING. IN THE
END, YOU WILL NOT
BE ABLE TO HIDE
FROM USSSSZ...



I'M NOT
HIDING.



NOW, GET
OUT OF THAT
CHILD'S BODY AND
GO BACK WHERE YOU
CAME FROM. TELL
YOUR MASTERS TO
STOP WASTING
MY TIME.

YOU WILL
PAY FOR WHAT
YOU'VE DONE,
SIMMMONZZZ.
YOU WILL BE
DESTROYED.



AND STOP
CALLING ME
"SIMMONS."



RONNIE!
RONNIE!



BABY, WHERE'D
YOU GO? YOU
SCARED ME.

NOWHERE,
MAMA. I
WAS JUST
LOOKING
AT THE
POSTERS.

SANTA
MONICA.

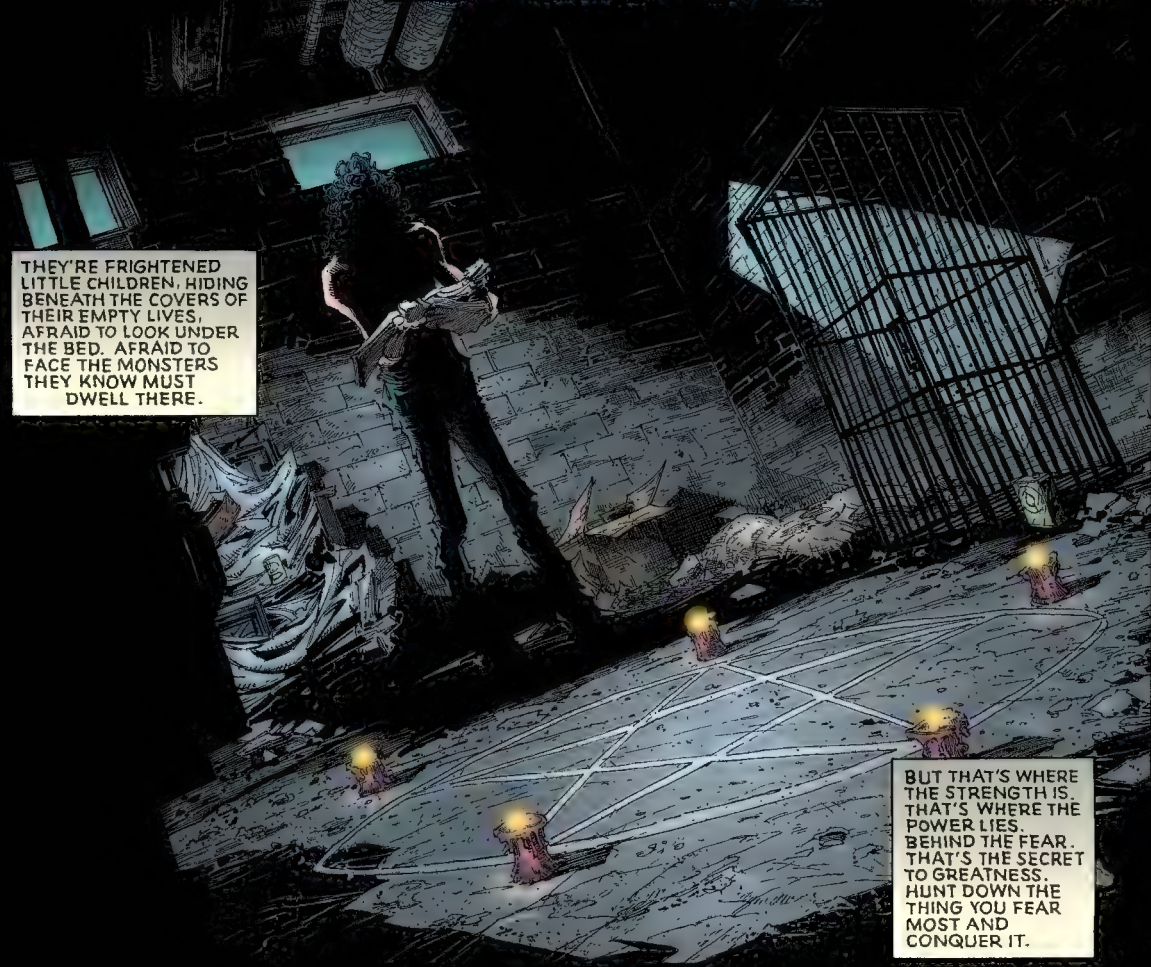
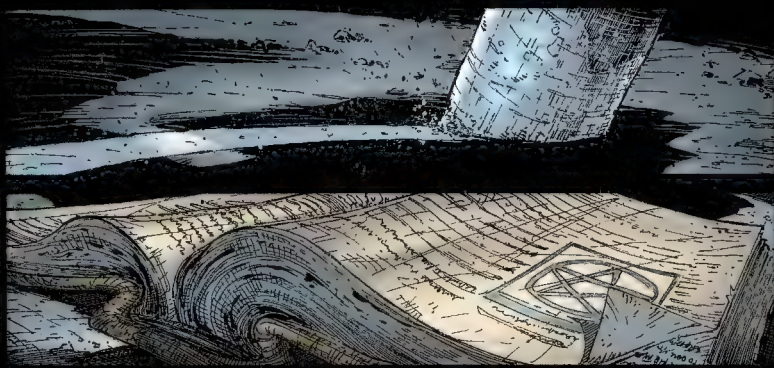
THERE ARE THINGS IN
THIS WORLD THAT
MOST PEOPLE ARE
AFRAID TO FACE.
LITTLE DARK CORNERS
THEY'RE TOO SCARED
TO LOOK IN.

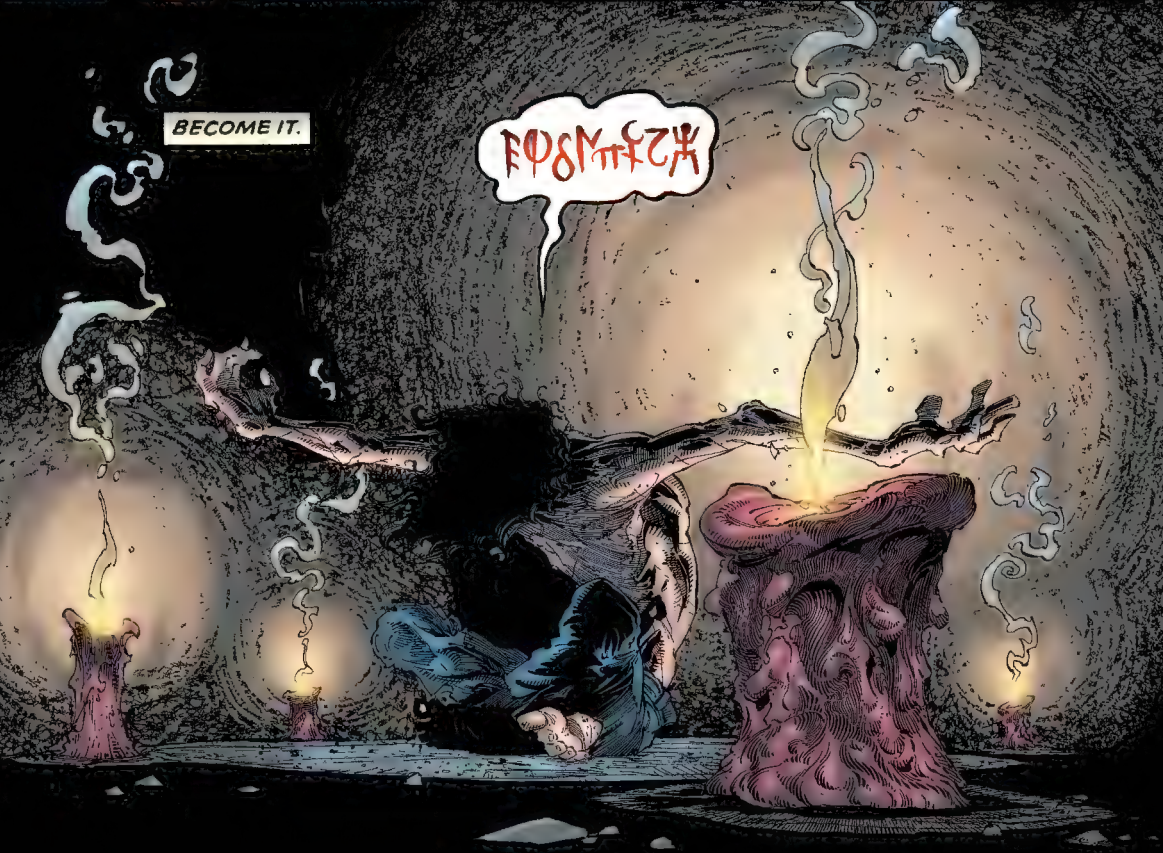
THOUGHTS THEY
WON'T ALLOW
THEMSELVES
TO THINK.

LINES THEY
WON'T ALLOW
THEMSELVES
TO CROSS.

THEY'RE FRIGHTENED
LITTLE CHILDREN, HIDING
BENEATH THE COVERS OF
THEIR EMPTY LIVES,
AFRAID TO LOOK UNDER
THE BED. AFRAID TO
FACE THE MONSTERS
THEY KNOW MUST
DWELL THERE.

BUT THAT'S WHERE
THE STRENGTH IS.
THAT'S WHERE THE
POWER LIES.
BEHIND THE FEAR.
THAT'S THE SECRET
TO GREATNESS.
HUNT DOWN THE
THING YOU FEAR
MOST AND
CONQUER IT.





LATER...

AFTER DARK, ALL THE MICE COME SCURRYING FROM THEIR HOLES. DRAWN BY THE NEON GLARE AND THE PROMISE OF ARTIFICIAL ECSTASY.

IT'S A PATHETIC MASQUERADE. FOR THESE FEW HOURS THEY PRETEND THAT THEY ARE WILD, PRETEND THAT THEY ARE FREE.

BUT DEEP DOWN THEY KNOW THE TRUTH. THEY ARE SHEEP IN WOLVES' CLOTHING.

WEAK MINDS AND HOLLOW.

HOLD UP THERE, CHIEF. I NEED A SEE YER HAND STAMP.

YOU DON'T NEED TO SEE MY HAND STAMP.

I DON'T NEED TO SEE YOUR HAND STAMP.

I CAN MOVE ALONG.

MOVE ALONG.

SOMETIMES OLD TRICKS REALLY ARE THE BEST.

THEY SEETHE LIKE
SNAKES, WRITHING
WITH DESPERATION.
DESPERATION TO
FEEL *ALIVE* FOR
JUST A MOMENT.

THEY REEK OF
AMPHETAMINE
SWEAT AND TOO
MUCH COLOGNE.

I WONDER WHAT THEY WOULD
SAY, ANY OF THEM, IF THEY KNEW
THIS WAS THEIR LAST NIGHT
ALIVE. WOULD THEY CRY FOR
MERCY? BEG FORGIVENESS?

WOULD THEY
FIGHT BACK?

YO!
EXCUSE
YOU! YOU JUST
KNOCKED MY
BEER.

HEY! I'M
TALKING
TO YOU!

LOOK
AT ME, YOU
FREAK! YOU
THINK YOU'RE
A TOUGH GUY?
HUH?



HEY, MAN, ARE YOU OKAY?

WHAT?

THERE'S SOMETHING IN YOUR MOUTH.

HUH?

YEAH. AND YOUR **THROAT**. AND YOUR **BELLY**. DUDE, THEY'RE CRAWLING ALL OVER YOU!

GUGG!

PUNK.

SHOULD... LIKE... SOMEBODY CALL A DOCTOR OR SOMETHING?

GUH-
GUH-GET THEM OFF MUM-MUM-ME!

WHOA. DUDE'S FREAKIN' OUT.



WELL,
WELL.
WHAT
HAVE WE
HERE?



COME ON,
MAN. YOU KNOW
I'M GOOD FOR IT.
JUST SPOT ME
THIS ONCE.

SORRY,
CHICA. CAN'T
DO THAT. THIS
AIN'T NO WELFARE
LINE. CASH AND
CARRY ONLY.



FINE.
WHO
NEEDS YOU?
YOUR STUFF
IS CRAP
ANYWAY!



Oh,
GREAT.



LOOKS LIKE
THIS JUST AIN'T
YOUR WEEK,
PRINCESS.

LEAVE
ME ALONE.
WHY DO YOU
GOTTA BE
SUCH AN
ASS?

BECAUSE I
CRAVE ATTENTION.
LOOK, MAYBE I
WAS A LITTLE
ROUGH--

DON'T TRY AND
SWEET
TALK ME. I
KNOW ALL
ABOUT
YOU.



YOU KNOW
WHAT THEY CALL
YOU, MARK? THEY
CALL YOU "MARK
OF THE BEAST."
I HEARD YOU'RE
A FREAKIN' DEVIL
WORSHIPER.

ME? I
WORSHIP NO ONE.
BUT I RESPECT
ANYONE WHO HAS
TRUE POWER.

WHATEVER.



LOOK. I WAS
ONLY HARD ON YOU
'CAUSE WE HAVE TO BE REAL
CAREFUL WITH THE HOUSE.
ONE SCREW-UP CAN RUIN IT
FOR EVERYONE. BUT YOU
GOT BALLS. I GIVE
YOU THAT.

LISTEN, IF YOU
REALLY WANT TO
GET HIGH, FORGET
THIS DUMP. I GOT
SOME STUFF THAT
WILL CHANGE
YOUR LIFE.



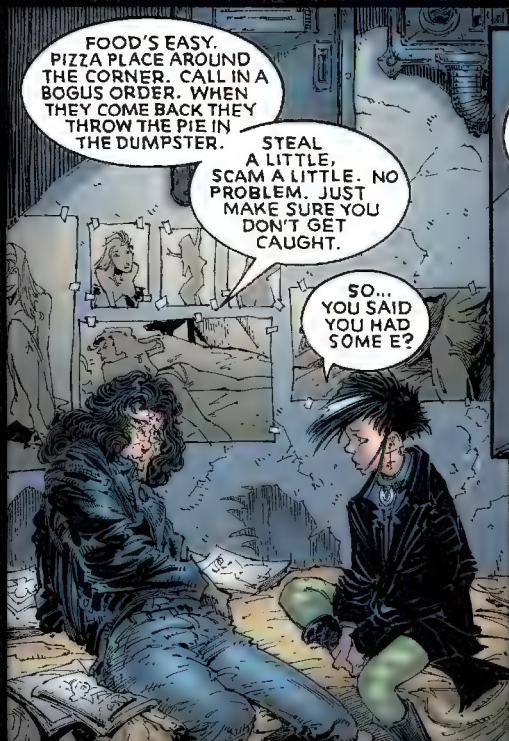
THIS IS IT. HOME SWEET HOME.

IT'S... uh... NICE.

IT'S CRAP. BUILT IN THE '30s, CONDEMNED AFTER THE '94 QUAKE. MOST OF THE KIDS STAY UPSTAIRS. I GOT THE BASEMENT TO MYSELF. IF IT EVER FALLS DOWN COMPLETELY, THIS'LL BE MY TOMB.

IT'S STILL HOOKED UP TO WATER AND ELECTRICITY, BUT YOU GOTTA BE DISCRETE. COPS ARE REALLY CRACKING DOWN ON SQUATS LATELY.

WHAT ABOUT FOOD?



FOOD'S EASY. PIZZA PLACE AROUND THE CORNER. CALL IN A BOGUS ORDER. WHEN THEY COME BACK THEY THROW THE PIE IN THE DUMPSTER.

STEAL A LITTLE, SCAM A LITTLE. NO PROBLEM. JUST MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GET CAUGHT.

SO... YOU SAID YOU HAD SOME E?

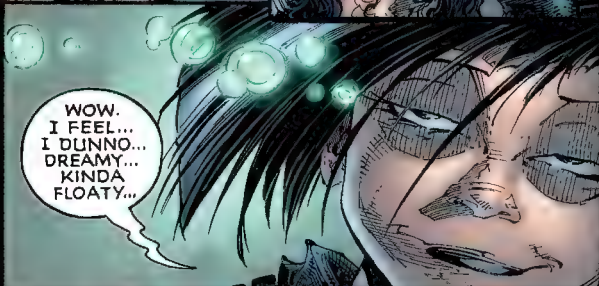


WELL, NOT EXACTLY. TRY THIS.

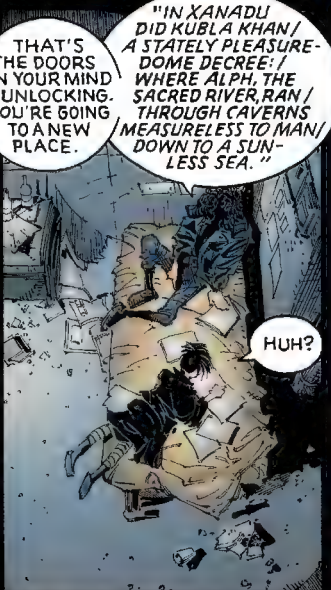


WHAT IS IT?

LAUDANUM.



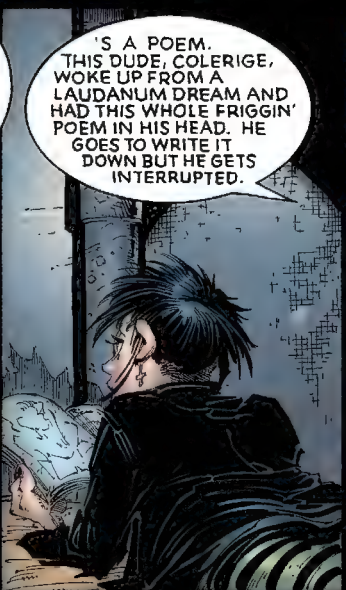
WOW. I FEEL... I DUNNO... DREAMY... KINDA FLOATY...



THAT'S THE DOORS IN YOUR MIND UNLOCKING. YOU'RE GOING TO A NEW PLACE.

"IN XANADU DID KUBLA KHAN / A STATELY PLEASURE-DOME DECREE: / WHERE ALPH, THE SACRED RIVER, RAN / THROUGH CAVERNS / MEASURELESS TO MAN / DOWN TO A SUN-LESS SEA."

HUH?

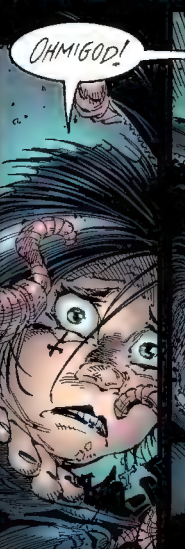
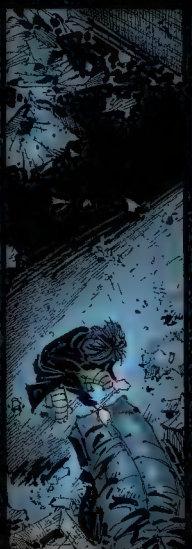
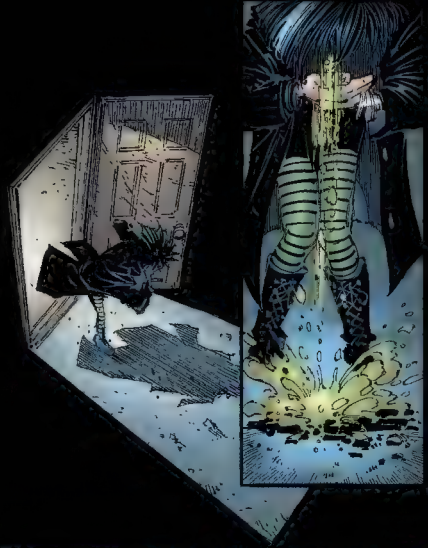
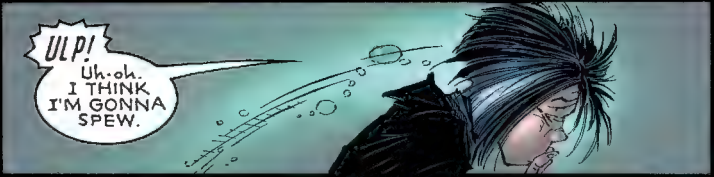


'S A POEM. THIS DUDE, COLERIDGE, WOKE UP FROM A LAUDANUM DREAM AND HAD THIS WHOLE FRIGGIN' POEM IN HIS HEAD. HE GOES TO WRITE IT DOWN BUT HE GETS INTERRUPTED.



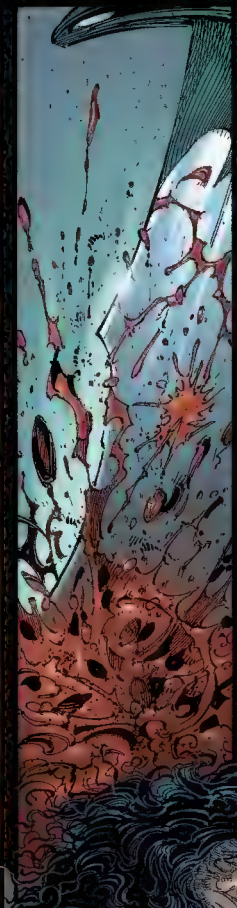
POOF. HE LOST IT. TRIED THE REST OF HIS LIFE BUT HE COULD NEVER, EVER FINISH IT. SEIZE THE MOMENT, BABY. YOU NEVER KNOW IF IT'S COMING BACK AGAIN.

YOU'RE WEIRD, MAN.

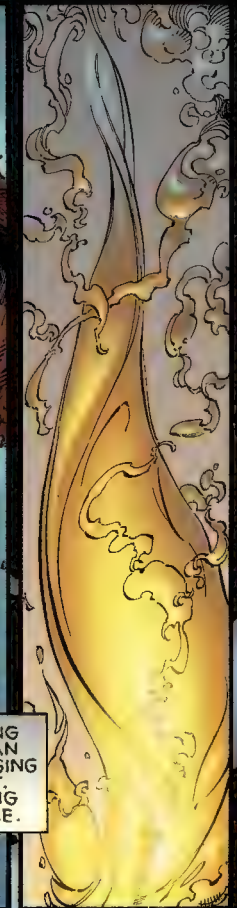
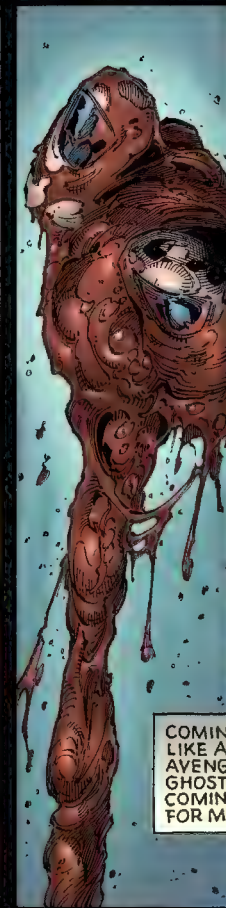




YOU KNOW, I
DIDN'T LIE TO
HER. I REALLY
AM TRYING TO
GET SOMEONE'S
ATTENTION.



I CAN FEEL
HIM OUT
THERE,
SLIPPING
BETWEEN
THE
SHADOWS.



COMING
LIKE AN
AVENGING
GHOST.
COMING
FOR ME.



MURDER

I CAN'T WAIT.



HE'S
HERE.

HE'S
MAGNIFICENT.

FOCUS.
DISCIPLINE.

HE'S
SIZING ME
UP. HE'LL
TRY TO
READ MY
THOUGHTS.

DISCIPLINE.
FOCUS.

"THERE'S
A GIRL IN
THE NEXT
ROOM. I'M
GOING
TO KILL
HER."

OH

MY

GOD!



GET
THIS THING
AWAY FROM
ME!!!



YOU ARE
SAFE NOW. YOU
ARE UNDER MY
PROTECTION.

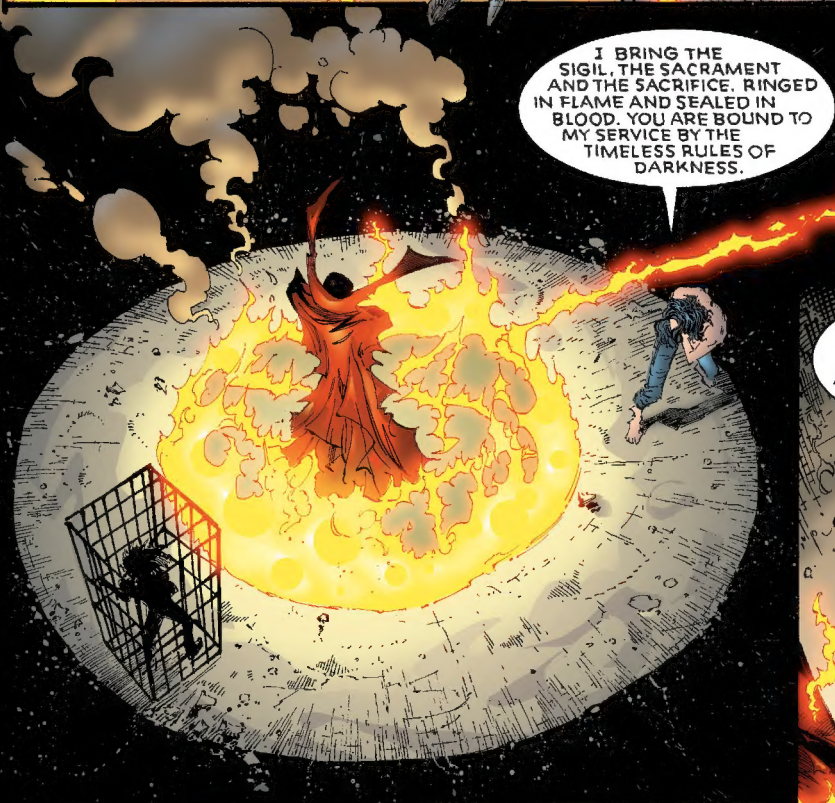
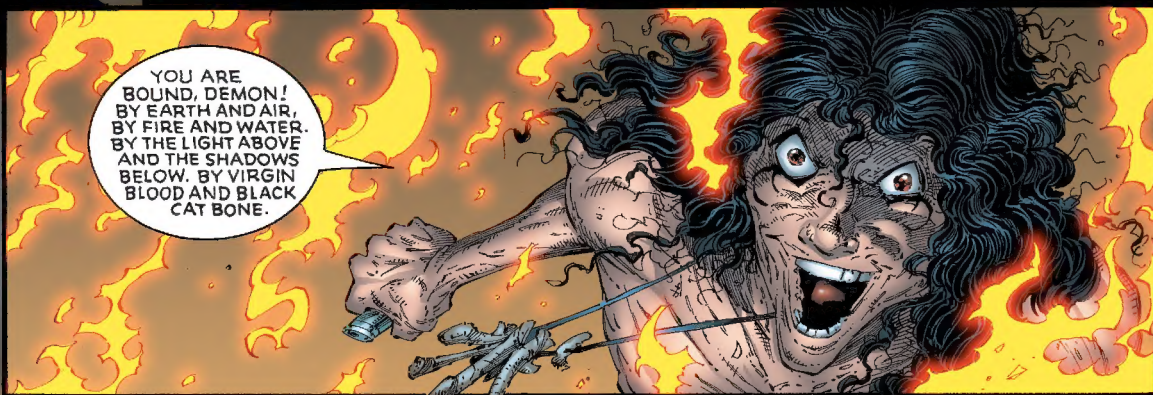
AAAAAH!

GET
AWAY!
GET
AWAY!



SUCKER.





TO BE CONTINUED.





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE